

Tam Le

PhD Candidate in Economics, University of Toronto

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Research Interests

Macroeconomics, firm dynamics, innovation, intangible capital, financial frictions, and banking.

Education

University of Toronto PhD in Economics, Toronto, Ontario, Canada	2023–Present
York University Master of Arts in Economics, Toronto, Ontario, Canada	2022–2023
Academy of Finance Master's Degree in Economics, Major in Finance and Banking, Hanoi, Vietnam	2015–2019
Academy of Finance Bachelor's Degree with Honours in Finance and Banking, Hanoi, Vietnam	2011–2015

Working Paper

Wasted Innovation? Zombie Firms, R&D Misallocation, and Productivity Slowdown

Recipient of the Best Second-Year Paper Award, Department of Economics, University of Toronto

Presentations: MacDev (Macro Development Group), University of Toronto; Macro Brown Bag Workshop, Department of Economics, University of Toronto; Econometric Society Asian Meeting (AMES), Hanoi, Vietnam, 2026.

Work in Progress

Is It the Journey or the Destination? Knowledge Capital Dynamics Across Firms and Workers

Joint with Mark Rempel

Financial Frictions, Intangible Capital, and Misallocation

Joint with Jonathan Brasseur

Bank Regulation, Relationship Lending, and Zombie-Firm Persistence

Joint with Robert Clark and Juan Sebastián Vélez

Conferences

Summer 2026 Econometric Society Asian Meeting (AMES), Hanoi, Vietnam — Presenter

Summer 2024 Midwest Macroeconomics Meetings — Participant

Research Experience

Research Assistant, University of Toronto 2024–Present

Innovation and Firm Dynamics with Patent Wars

Supervisor: Professor Mark Rempel

- Conduct data construction, empirical analysis, and structural estimation using Python, R, and MATLAB.

- Work with large-scale firm-level, patent, litigation, corporate ownership, and merger-and-acquisition datasets.
- Assist with model calibration, parameter sensitivity analysis, and the identification of moments used to discipline quantitative models.

Research Assistant, York University 2022–2023

Studies of the Efficacy of the Procurement Strategy for Aboriginal Business

- Scraped data using Python and organized, cleaned, and analyzed datasets using R.
- Produced preliminary summary statistics for a policy-evaluation project.

Undergraduate Researcher, Academy of Finance 2016–2017

Improving the Competitiveness of Vietnamese Rice Exportation in the International Market

Undergraduate Researcher, Academy of Finance 2014–2015

Increasing the Attraction of Foreign Direct Investment to Agricultural Production in Vietnam

Undergraduate Researcher, Academy of Finance 2013–2014

Dumping of Vietnamese Goods in the United States Market: The Reality and Solutions

Teaching Experience

Course Instructor

University of Toronto Summer 2026

ECO220: Introduction to Data Analysis and Applied Econometrics

Teaching Assistant

University of Toronto 2023–Present

- ECO349: Money, Banking and Financial Markets
- ECO403: Topics in Development Economics and Policy
- ECO352: Firms and the Economy
- ECO220: Introduction to Data Analysis and Applied Econometrics
- ECO202 / ECO208: Macroeconomic Theory and Policy
- ECO101: Principles of Microeconomics
- ECO102: Principles of Macroeconomics

York University 2022–2023

ECON3150: International Trade

Non-refereed Publication

Le, Tam T. “Attraction of Foreign Direct Investment to Agriculture in Vietnam: The Reality and Solutions.” *Scientific Research Student Journal*, Academy of Finance, Vol. 4, 2015.

Awards and Scholarships

Fall–Winter 2026 Ontario Graduate Scholarship (OGS)

2026 Best Second-Year Paper Award, Department of Economics, University of Toronto

2026 Travel Grant, University of Toronto

2025–2026 Research Grant, University of Toronto

2023–Present	Faculty of Arts & Science Top (FAST) Award, University of Toronto
2023–Present	University of Toronto Fellowship
2022–2023	York University Graduate Entrance Award
2022–2023	York University Fellowship
2020	Leadership Excellence Award, United Parcel Service
2014–2015	First Prize in Scientific Research, Faculty of International Finance, Academy of Finance
2014–2015	Third Prize, Young Talents in Scientific Research Competition, Academy of Finance
2013–2014	First Prize in Scientific Research, Faculty of International Finance, Academy of Finance
2013–2014	Second Prize, Young Talents in Scientific Research Competition, Academy of Finance
2011–2015	Academic Excellence Scholarship, Academy of Finance

Additional Professional Experience

Customs Specialist and Representative, United Parcel Service Mississauga, Ontario, Canada	2018–2023
Administrative and Financial Assistant, Royal Ontario Museum Toronto, Ontario, Canada	2018
Project Assistant, Vietnamese Ministry of Finance Hanoi, Vietnam	2015

Designations and Certificates

2015	Certificate of Merit for Academic Excellence, Academy of Finance
2015	Certificate of Merit for Excellence in Scientific Research, Academy of Finance

Technical Skills

Programming and software: R, MATLAB, Python, Stata, EViews, LaTeX, and ERP systems.

Languages

Vietnamese: Native	English: Fluent
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